

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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INFO DIRECTOR, USGAO, HONOLULU, HAWAII

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, AGAO

SUBJ: SURVEY OF PROGRESS TOWARD MODULARIZATION OF FOOD PACKAGING

FOR AMBASSADOR SELDEN FROM STAFFORD, MANAGER, BANGKOK OFFICE,
USGAO; SECSTATE FOR DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS ANALYSIS AND GAO
LIAISON (BF-GAO); BKK-77-7

REF: STATE 256883

THE U.S. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE IS INITIATING A SURVEY OF
PROGRESS TOWARD MODULARIZATION OF FOOD PACKAGING IN AUSTRALIA
AND NEW ZEALAND. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS BEEN NOTIFIED OF
THIS ASSIGNMENT (SEE REF.).

WORK IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND IS PART OF A WORLD-WIDE

GAO EFFORT TO REVIEW PROGRESS TOWARD STANDARDIZATION AND MODU-
ARIZATION ACROSS PRODUCT LINES AS IT RELATES TO PRODUCTIVITY
IMPROVEMENT AND COST SAVINGS.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND ARE REGARDED AS COUNTRIES THAT
HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN THIS AREA. STAFF WILL REVIEW
COUNTRIES'S EXPERIENCE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON EXACTLY WHAT WAS
DONE, HOW IT WAS DONE, AND THE RESULTS ACHIEVED. STAFF INTENDS TO
OBTAIN REPORTS AND DESCRIPTIVE MATERIAL THAT DETAIL THE FOOD
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SSSTEM AND THE CONVERSION TO A STANDARDIZED SYSTEM OF FOOD PACKA-

GINR AND DISCUSS THESE MATTERS WITH OFFICIALS OF GOVERNMENTAL BODIES, TRADE ASSOCIATIONS, AND COMPANIES ENGAGED IN MAJOR ASPECTS OF THE FOOD INDUSTRY.

GAO WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS HAS ASKED STAFF TO CONTACT THE NEW ZEALAND METRIC ADVISORY BOARD, AND APPROPRIATE NEW ZEALAND CONSUMER GROUPS, TRADE ASSOCIATIONS, AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.

GAO ESTIMATES IT WILL TAKE TWO MEN ABOUT TWO WEEKS TO PERFORM THIS SURVEY IN NEW ZEALAND. THE WORK WILL BE CONDUCTED UNDER THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF JAMES N. STAFFORD, MANAGER, BANGKOK OFFICE, AND WILL BE PERFORMED BY THE FOLLOWING GAO REPRESENTATIVES:

GEORGE A. PAGNILLO, SUPERVISOR
J. THOMAS LUTER

I CERTIFY THAT MESSRS. PAGNILLO AND LUTER HAVE BEEN GRANTED SECURITY CLEARANCE FOR OFFICIAL PURPOSES FOR ACCESS TO SECURITY INFORMATION CLASSIFIED UP TO AND INCLUDING TOP SECRET ON THE BASIS OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 10450. THIS CERTIFICATION IS NOT TO BE HONORED UNLESS THE REPRESENTATIVES NAMED HEREIN PRESENT OFFICIAL GAO CREDENTIALS.

WHEN TRAVEL PLANS ARE FIRM, STAFF WILL ADVISE SPECIFIC ARRIVAL TIME AND REQUEST ACCOMMODATIONS AND ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING INTERVIEWS WITH GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR OFFICIALS.
WHITEHOUSE

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